



[22750/405A]


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Hans-Michael KÜHL et al.  
Serial No. : 09/835,261  
Filed : April 12, 2001  
For : ELASTOMER FLOOR COVERING AND METHOD FOR  
ITS MANUFACTURE  
Art Unit : 1774  
Examiner : Tamra L. DICUS  
Confirmation No. : 5004

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on  
Date: December 23, 2003  
Signature:   
Richard M. Rosati (Reg. No. 31,792)

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

This is in response to the Office Action of August 27, 2003.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 are pending and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The Patent Office has contended that these claims are as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,017,586 to Payn et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the remarks that follow, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.